



MD 197 Project Planning Study

From Kenhill Drive to MD 450 Relocated

Bowie City Council

April 6, 2009

Purpose of the Project

- ☀ Improve vehicular, transit, pedestrian and bicycle accessibility
- ☀ Provide safety and capacity improvements

*MD 197 southbound at
MD 450 Relocated*



*MD 197 southbound at
Kenhill Drive*



Foxhill Park Entrance to MD 197



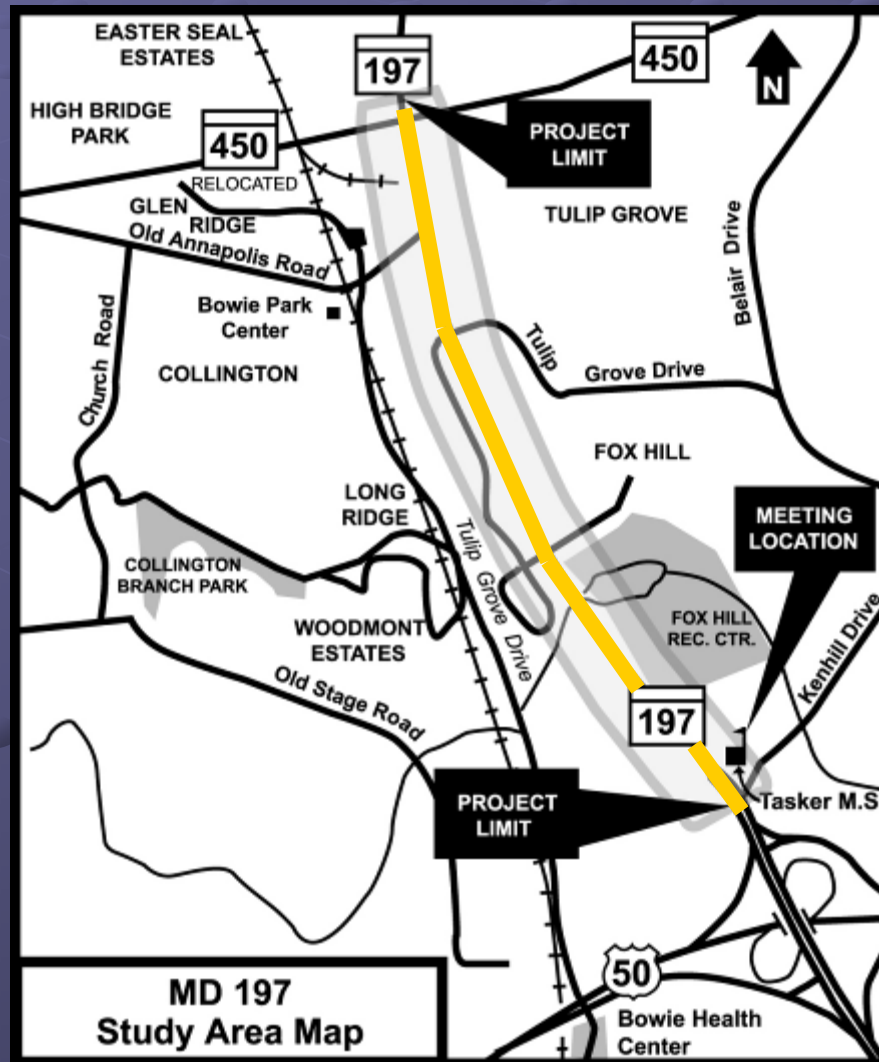
*MD 450 Southbound at
Gallant Fox Lane*



Existing and 2030 No-Build LOS

Intersection	2007 (Existing)		2030 (No-Build)	
	AM Peak LOS (V/C)	PM Peak LOS (V/C)	AM Peak LOS (V/C)	PM Peak LOS (V/C)
MD 197 at MD 450 Relocated	B (0.64)	B (0.72)	E (0.99)	F (1.12)
MD 197 at Gallant Fox Lane	A (0.44)	A (0.61)	A (0.59)	C (0.80)
MD 197 at Old MD 450	A (0.51)	B (0.71)	B (0.67)	E (0.94)
MD 197 at Long Ridge Lane	C (0.74)	D (0.82)	E (0.98)	F (1.09)
MD 197 at Lyle Lane	C (0.78)	F (1.03)	F (1.03)	F (1.38)
MD 197 at Lerner Place	C (0.76)	F (1.01)	F (1.01)	F (1.35)
MD 197 at Kenhill Drive	B (0.65)	C (0.76)	D (0.87)	E (1.00)

MD 197 Corridor



Alternatives Retained for Detailed Study

- ☀ Alternative 1: No-Build
- ☀ Alternative 3: Five-Lane Typical Section
- ☀ Alternative 4: Four-Lane Divided Typical Section

Note: Alternatives 3 and 4 include some TSM / TDM components such as traffic signal synchronization, enhanced bus stop shelters, and pedestrian safety improvements. SHA also encourages telecommuting, staggered work hours, and carpooling.

Summary of Public Hearing (Feb 2008) Comments

- ☀ A free right-turn at Kenhill Drive onto northbound MD 197 is needed
- ☀ The existing trail is a resource that should be protected
- ☀ Traffic signal synchronization improvements are needed
- ☀ Center turn lanes (Alternative 3) are dangerous and unnecessary
- ☀ Impacts to private property should be minimized
- ☀ Concerns regarding noise impacts

Summary of Public Hearing Comments (cont.)

- ☀ A narrower median (Alternative 4) would reduce impacts
- ☀ Traffic speeds and neighborhood cut through are a problem
- ☀ Pedestrian access to bus stops is needed
- ☀ Impacts to adjacent trees, school property and Foxhill Park should be minimized
- ☀ An interchange at US 50 and MD 193 would reduce traffic along MD 197
- ☀ Questioned the need for bicycle compatible lanes

Post-Hearing Engineering Studies

- ☀ Retaining walls to minimize impacts – Continued study in final design
- ☀ Continuous five-foot sidewalk along western edge of roadway – Incorporated into Alternative 4 Modified
- ☀ Roundabout at Long Ridge Lane / Tulip Grove Drive – Not recommended
- ☀ Right-turn only lane from Kenhill Drive onto northbound MD 197 – Incorporated into Alternative 4 and 4 Modified

Post-Hearing Engineering Studies (cont.)

- ☀ Reversible lanes during peak travel hours –
Not recommended
- ☀ Narrower median – Incorporated into
Alternative 4 Modified
- ☀ 12-foot outside travel lanes (eliminate bicycle lanes) – Not
recommended
- ☀ Median closures at two non-signalized intersections –
Closure at Faith/Lyle incorporated into Alternative 4
Modified. Median closure at Faith/Lyle is not recommended.

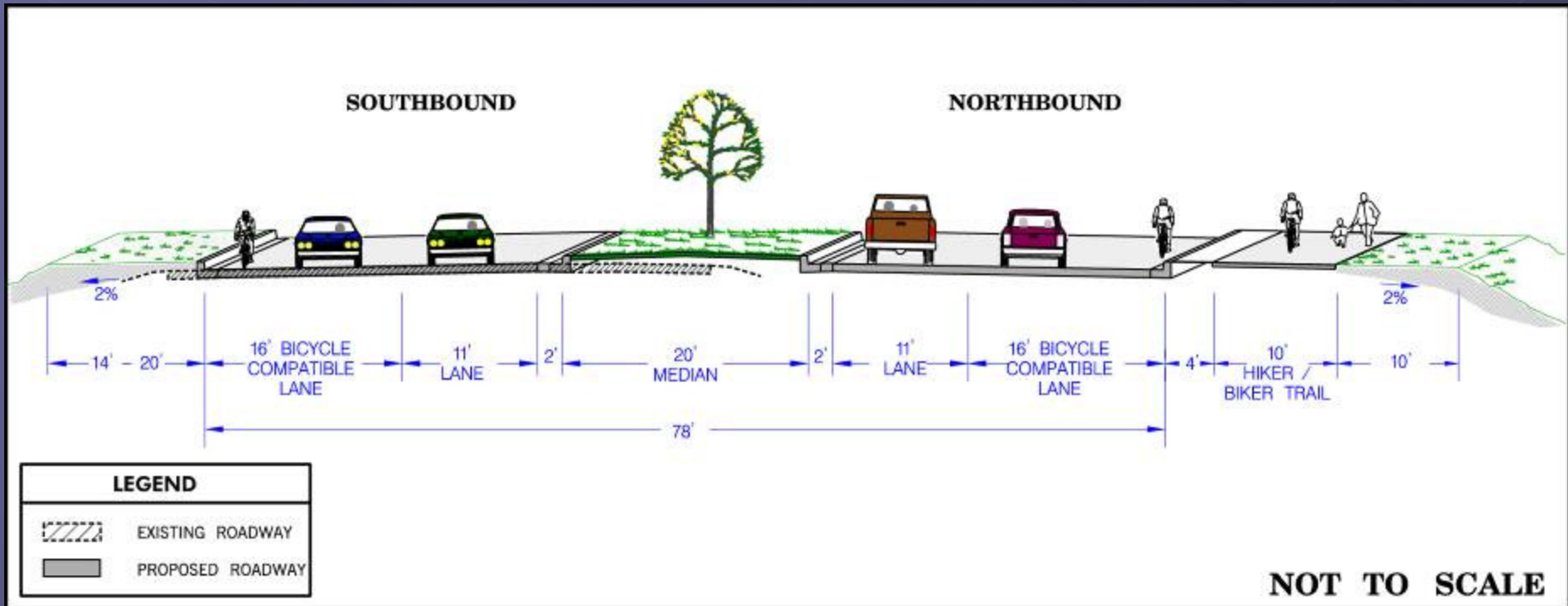
Reduction of Width of Bicycle Compatible Travel Lane

- ☀ Maryland State Law (Section 2-602 of the Annotated Code of Maryland) requires that new and reconstructed highway facilities, such as MD 197 must safely accommodate on-road bicycle access
- ☀ A shared travel lane serves a different purpose from a separated bicycle trail
- ☀ Because of legal requirements, SHA will follow the current policy to provide 16-foot outside bicycle compatible travel lanes on all new and reconstructed roads.

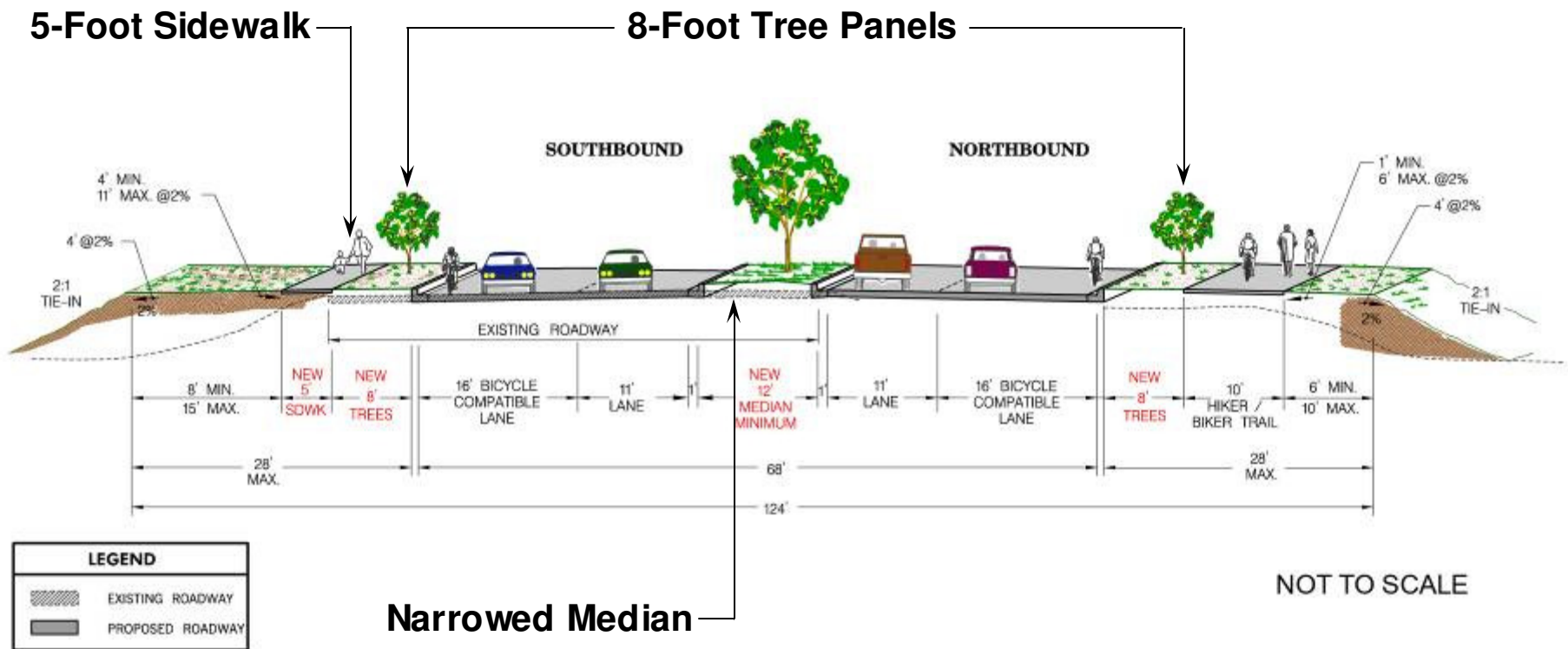
Alternatives Considered for Selection

- ✱ Alternative 1: No-Build
- ✱ Alternative 4: Four-Lane Divided Typical Section
- ✱ Alternative 4 Modified: Four-Lane Divided Typical Section with:
 - ✱ 5-foot sidewalk on west side
 - ✱ Narrower median
 - ✱ Street Trees
 - ✱ Closure of median crossing at Faith / Lyle

Alternative 4



Alternative 4 Modified (between Long Ridge Lane and Lerner Place)



Summary of Comments from March 24, 2009 Public Meeting

- ☀ SHA listened to input received
- ☀ Safe pedestrian crossing of MD 197
- ☀ No need for wider lanes for bicyclists
- ☀ May need traffic signal at Lerner Place
- ☀ Concern about property impacts on the west side of the roadway with Alternative 4 Modified
- ☀ May not need sidewalk on west side

Recent Milestones and Next Steps

Recent Milestones

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| ☀ Location / Design Public Hearing | February 13, 2008 |
| ☀ Team Recommendation | Summer / Fall 2008 |
| ☀ Additional Technical Study | Fall / Winter 2008 / 09 |
| ☀ Public Meeting | March 24, 2009 |
| ☀ Bowie City Council Meeting | April 6, 2009 |

Next Steps

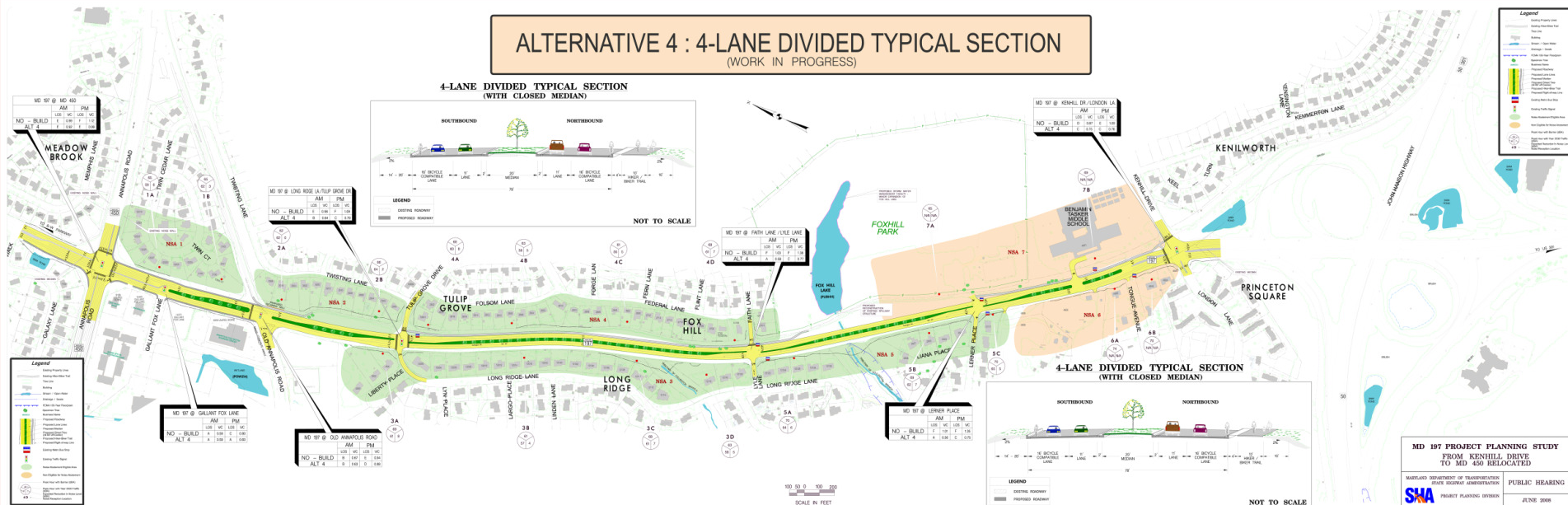
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|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| ☀ Administrator's Selection Meeting | Spring 2009 |
| ☀ Location / Design Approval | Summer 2009 |



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Alternative 4



Alternative 4





Alternative 4 Modified (between Long Ridge Lane and Lerner Place)

